

CITY OF MADISON
AGENDA AND NOTICE OF MEETING
Regular Meeting of the City Council – **5:00 PM**
Monday March 27, 2023
Madison Municipal Building

1. CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Thole will call the meeting to order.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

Approve the agenda as posted in accordance with the Open Meetings law, and herein place all agenda items on the table for discussion. A MOTION is in order. (Council)

3. APPROVE MINUTES

Page 1

A copy of the March 13, 2023 regular meeting minutes are enclosed. A MOTION is in order. (Council)

4. PUBLIC PETITIONS, REQUESTS, HEARINGS, AND COMMUNICATIONS (public/mayor/council)

Members of the audience wishing to address the Council with regard to an agenda item, presentation of a petition, utility customer hearing, or a general communication should be recognized at this time. A MOTION may be in order (Public/Council)

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| A. | MMUA Syllabus – March 2023 - receive | Page 3 |
| B. | CGMC Labor Bulletin – March 2023 – receive | Page 4 |
| C. | CDBG-CV Grant Status – March 2023 – receive | Page 10 |
| D. | Senator Dahms – March 27, 2023 – receive | Page 11 |

A MOTION may be in order to accept the reports and/or authorize the actions requested. (Council)

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Page 14

- A. City Council Checklist. A DISCUSSION may be in order. (Manager, Council)

Page 15

- B. Public Hearing Small Cities Development Grant – March 27, 2023 5PM. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)

- i. Approve Conflict of Interest
- ii. Approve Final Application Preparation - DSI
- iii. Approve Mayor to Sign Final Application
- iv. Approve Local Government Application Resolution
- v. Approve Request for Proposal for Administrative Services

- C. Madison Ambulance Report. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)

- Page 23
- D. Award City Hall Window Rehabilitation Project. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)
- Page 24
- E. Approve DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Application and Local Commitment. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)
- Handout
- F. Electric Department Digger Derick Truck – David Johnson. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)
- Page 25
- G. Software and Professional Services Agreement – Gworks. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)
- Page 26
- H. Approve Township Fire Protection Rate. A DISCUSSION and MOTION may be in order. (Manager, Council)
- Page 27
- I. Snow Gates Follow up. A DISCUSSION may be in order. (Manager, Council)

7. MANAGER REPORT (Manager)

Legislative Update:

- Small Cities Street Funding
- Local Government Aide
- Bonding Bill

8. MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS (Mayor/Council)

9. AUDITING CLAIM

Page 32

A copy of the Schedule Payment Report of bills submitted March 13, 2023 through March 27, 2023 is attached for approval for Check No. 64220 through Check No. 64248 and debit card purchases. A MOTION is in order.

10. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF MADISON
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

**MINUTES OF THE MADISON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 13, 2023**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Madison City Council was called to order by Mayor Greg Thole on Monday, March 13, at 5:04 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. Councilmembers present were: Mayor Greg Thole, Tim Volk (left meeting at 5:49 p.m.), Paul Zahrbock, Adam Conroy, and Maynard Meyer. Also present were: City Manager Val Halvorson, City Attorney Rick Stulz and City Clerk Christine Enderson.

AGENDA

Upon motion by Zahrbock, seconded by Meyer and carried, the agenda was approved as presented. All agenda items are hereby placed on the table for discussion.

MINUTES

Upon motion by Volk, seconded by Conroy and carried, the February 27, 2023, regular meeting minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC PETITIONS, REQUESTS, HEARINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Meyer, seconded by Zahrbock and carried, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

CITY COUNCIL CHECKLIST

Council reviewed the City Council Checklist.

LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Lac qui Parle County Sheriff Allen Anderson presented Council with the Law Enforcement annual report for 2022 and noted 2,409 total calls for the City of Madison last year. He summarized the calls by type and reported on upcoming events for 2023.

SET PUBLIC HEARING – SMALL CITIES DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Upon motion by Volk, seconded by Meyer and carried, Council scheduled a public hearing for the Small Cities Development Grant on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium.

WATER AND WASTE WATER OPERATOR TIMELINE

City Manager Val Halvorson presented Council the timeline and employment ad for the water and waste water operator position that will be open effective March 20th. The application deadline is March 24th at 4:30 p.m., interviews will be held April 6th and 7th and the committee will seek council approval on April 10th or special meeting date.

MADISON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION LOAN REQUEST

City Manager Val Halvorson provided an update on the Memorial Field fundraising by the Madison Baseball Association (MBA) and informed Council that they inquired about a loan from the City of Madison. A loan amount is uncertain at this time. City Attorney Rick Stulz is working on a lease agreement with the City and MBA for the field and facilities management which would provide for making improvements. Council was unanimous in supporting the Madison Baseball Association and is willing to work with them on an agreement when the need arises for a loan.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

There were three applications submitted recently: Congressional Direct Spending for the fire hall and water plant rehab, JPAC grant to assist in covering the increased costs to execute the community meeting, and the DNR Outdoor Recreation Preapplication for new tennis courts, basketball court, and parking lot with ADA access routes at Slen Park.

(Councilmember Tim Volk left at 5:49 p.m.)

Bids are currently open for city hall windows, Eastview Townhomes, Eastview pavement, and small projects along Highway 75.

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS

Chamber Meeting: The last meeting was held on March 1st.

Earth Day: The Soil and Water Conservation District is in the process of planning some Earth Day activities in the community.

EDA: Mayor Thole provided an update from the EDA meeting held on March 6th.

DISBURSEMENTS

Upon motion by Conroy, seconded by Meyer and carried, Council approved disbursements for bills submitted between February 27 and March 13, 2023. These disbursements include United Prairie Check Nos. 64146-64219. Debit card and ACH purchases made between February 27 and March 13, 2023, were also approved as listed within the Claims Report.

There being no further business, upon motion by Conroy, seconded by Zahrbock and carried, meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Greg Thole - Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Enderson – City Clerk

Safety Training Syllabus

Instructor/MMUA Safety Coordinator: Travis Denison CLCP

Instructor Signature: _____

Date: March 21, 2023 @ 8:15 am

Location: City Hall

Topic: Stress Management

Training hours: 2

Type of training: This will be a power point presentation.

Content to be covered:

- What causes stress?
- Common stressors.
- Recognizing stress.
- Signs and symptoms.
- Managing stress.
- PTSD

Additional content/topics to be covered:

JTS Topic – APPA Safety Manual Updates after afternoon meeting.

Question and answer: Time allotted after training program

Travis Denison CLCP
MMUA
Regional Safety Coordinator
Email: tdenison@mmua.org
Cell #: 605-280-8826

[Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association](#)



THE GREATER MINNESOTA LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN IS PUBLISHED BY THE COALITION OF GREATER MINNESOTA CITIES LABOR AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR CGMC MEMBERS INTERESTED IN RELEVANT AND TIMELY INFORMATION ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ISSUES.

MARCH 2023

LABOR COMMITTEE UPDATES

Compensation Survey

The CGMC consistently collects and communicates settlement and benefit data to better understand economic changes local governments make to address their financial bottom-line during labor negotiations with their workforce budgets. We encourage you to complete the survey at: <https://forms.gle/VaEZW2cAaNxG144V8>

DATA FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Below is data relevant to cities in establishing compensation packages for employees in 2023 and beyond.

Interest Arbitration Awards

General Wage Increases for Law Enforcement in All Local Government Units in Minnesota 2020-2024

CBA Year	# of Awards	Union Position	Employer Position	Arbitrator Award	Arbitrator Award
2022	11	3.36%	2.02%	2.18%	0.00%-4.00%
2023	5	3.70%	2.45%	2.90%	2.25%-4.00%
2024	4	3.88%	2.31%	2.88%	2.25%-4.00%

Settlements

General Wage Increase Averages and Ranges for Greater MN Cities 2022-2025		
2022	2.80%	
Sample Size	112	
Range	#	%
0%	1	0.85%
.01-.99%	0	0.00%
1.00-1.99%	6	5.08%
2.00-2.99%	42	37.50%
3.00%+	63	56.25%
2023	3.05%	
Sample Size	53	
Range	#	%
0%	0	0.00%
.01-.99%	0	0.00%
1.00-1.99%	1	1.89%
2.00-2.99%	17	32.08%
3.00%+	35	66.04%
2024	2.98%	
Sample Size	41	
Range	#	%
0%	0	0.00%
.01-.99%	0	0.00%
1.00-1.99%	1	2.70%
2.00-2.99%	9	24.32%
3.00%+	27	72.97%
2025	3.00%	
Sample Size	3	
Range	#	%
0%	0	0.00%
.01-.99%	0	0.00%
1.00-1.99%	0	0.00%
2.00-2.99%	1	33.33%
3.00%+	2	66.67%

Health Insurance (Highest Cost Plan) Averages for Greater MN Cities 2022-2023						
	Monthly City Contribution				HRA/HSA/VEBA	
	Single		Family		Single	Family
	%	\$	%	\$	\$	\$
2022	90.40%	\$742.13	83.06%	\$1,609.30	\$1,574.82	\$3,092.43
Sample	38	37	35	38	34	29
2023	77.50%	\$868.56	75.00%	\$1,748.54	\$1,790.00	\$2,540.00
Sample	2	4	3	4	2	2

GOVERNMENT AND WAGE DATA

Minnesota Government

Budget Surplus

When the last November Budget and Economic Forecast was released, the current biennium was projected to end with a budgetary surplus of \$11.617 billion. Higher collections relative to forecast and slightly lower spending result in a projected improvement of \$867 million to the ending balance. With this forecast, the FY 2022-23 biennium is now projected to end with a surplus of \$12.484 billion.

Budget and Economic Forecast, Feb. 2023, MMB.

Unionized State Employees

- FY 2021-2022: 2.50% general wage increase
- FY 2022-2023: 2.50% general wage increase

Summary of Salary and Benefits Changes 2021-2023, MMB.

Federal Government

Employees

- 2021: 1% base pay increase
- 2022: 2.2 % base plus 0.5% locality pay increases
- 2023: 4.6% base pay increase plus .05% increase to locality pay (via executive order)
- 2024: 4.7% base increase and 4% increase to locality pay (proposed by congressional democrats)

Pay and Benefits, Government Executive (June 2, 2021); see 2022 Pay Raise, Government Executive (Jan. 5, 2022); see Pay and Benefits, Government Executive (Jan. 5, 2023); see Pay and Benefits, Government Executive (Jan. 26, 2023).

ECONOMY

U.S. and Minnesota

Employee's Salary Increases

3 in 4 of the 1,550 U.S. employers in the latest Salary Budget Planning Report by consultancy WTW say they continue to experience problems attracting and retaining workers.

To tackle the competitive labor market, more than half of respondents (57 percent) have hired candidates higher in the relevant salary range, WTW found, while a further 76 percent have adjusted or are considering adjusting salary ranges more aggressively, increasing ranges by 2 percent to 5 percent with an average of 4.6%. Employers also are generally eyeing smaller raises in 2023 than they did last year.

Average US Pay Increase Projected to Hit 4.6% in 2023, Nov. 29, 2022, SHRM. As Inflation, Job Market Cool, Employers Eye Smaller Raises in 2023, Feb. 22, 2023, SHRM.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (i.e., overall economy)

- Real GDP Projections:

	Feb. 2022	Feb. 2023
2020	-3.4%	-2.8%
2021	5.7%	5.9%
2022F	3.7%	2.1%
2023F	2.7%	.07%
2024F	2.6%	1.6%
2025F	2.5%	2.0%

- IHS, the State's economic consultant, assigns a probability of 55% to the February baseline outlook. The IHS' outlook continues to factor in: (1) Russia's invasion of Ukraine as result; (2) spiking inflation; (3) six Federal Reserve actions to raise interest rates; and (4) a commitment by the Fed to fight inflation even at the risk of a downturn.
- IHS assigns a 25% probability to a more pessimistic scenario, characterized by (1) weaker consumer spending and (2) a deeper two quarter recession than in the baseline forecast arising from an intensification of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which pushes up prices for energy and other commodities. As a result, real GDP grows 2.1 percent in 2022 and contracts 0.2 percent in 2023, compared to 2.1 and positive 0.7 in the baseline outlook.
- IHS assigns a 20% probability to a more optimistic scenario in which IHS assumes that consumer spending, productivity growth, and business investment are stronger relative to the baseline. This scenario assumes that the federal Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act has a greater economic impact than in the baseline. In this scenario, GDP increases 2.1 percent in 2022 and 1.5 percent in 2023.

Budget and Economic Forecast, Feb. 2023, MMB.

Employment and Unemployment Rate (i.e., jobless individuals)

- Minnesota lost 417,600 jobs in March and April 2020, approximately 14 percent of February 2020 payroll employment. Through December 2022, Minnesota has regained 377,600 of those jobs, or 90 percent of the payroll jobs lost during the pandemic recession, leaving employment 40,000 (1.3 percent) less than in February 2020. U.S. employment surpassed the February 2020 level in June 2022.
- Minnesota's seasonally adjusted December unemployment rate of 2.5 percent is the fourth

lowest in the U.S. and 1.0 percentage points below the U.S. unemployment rate of 3.5 percent. In this outlook, an economic slowdown is expected to push the U.S. unemployment rate to 4.6 percent in 2024. Minnesota's unemployment rate is expected to peak at 3.2 percent in the same year.

- The unemployment rate does not capture Minnesotans that have left the labor force, including retirements or those who opted to stay home to care for children. Since the onset of the pandemic in February 2020, Minnesota's labor force has fallen by 90,000. As of December, Minnesota's labor force participation rate was 67.9 percent, 0.6 percentage points higher than a year ago and 2.9 percentage points lower than in February 2020. Minnesota's labor force participation rate remains 5.6 percentage points above the U.S. rate and the sixth highest among U.S. states.

Budget and Economic Forecast, Feb. 2023, MMB.

- The MN unemployment rate is the fourth lowest in the U.S. at 2.5%.
- The labor force participation in Minnesota is 68% (the fifth highest in the U.S.).
- Wage and salary income in Minnesota grew 7.2% in 2022. Growth is expected to continue at a rate of 4.7% in 2023 and 4.8% in 2024.

Budget and Economic Forecast, Feb. 2023, MMB.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) (i.e., change in prices):

- CPI:
 - 2023 (projected): 4.0%
 - 2024 (projected): 2.3%
 - 2025 (projected): 2.2%
- In December 2022, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) increased the federal funds rate by 50 basis points. FOMC signaled a commitment to fighting inflation even at the risk of a recession. FOMC issued a 25-basis point increase also in February.
- IHS expects that the Federal Reserve will act aggressively to combat recent and expected inflationary pressures. In their February forecast, IHS expects that the FOMC will raise the federal funds rate to 4.5 to 4.75 percent in Spring of 2023. IHS expects the FOMC to reduce the federal fund rate in spring 2024 and bring it below 3 percent in 2025.

Consumer Price Index Summary, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Budget and Economic Forecast, Feb. 2023, MMB.

LEGAL CORNER

More unfair labor practice charges against MN public employers on the horizon

Minnesota legislation is moving, House File (HF) 62, that seeks to effectuate the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) through fully funding PERB and authorizing it to process unfair labor practice charges against labor organizations and public employers starting July 1, 2023.

HF62 appropriates money to PERB for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, along with changes impacting data and meetings for PERB matters.

In recent years, PERB has not been on the forefront of many public employers' minds, as it has been devoid of funding and jurisdiction over unfair labor practice (ULP) charges. This is about to change and could alter the labor relations landscape in Minnesota, likely beginning July 1, 2023.

Historically, the lack of funding and functioning of PERB has meant that public employees and unions were disincentivized from bringing unfair labor practice (ULP) actions. Why?: the only route to file a ULP complaint currently is in district court, which is expensive and time consuming and not advantageous to public employees and unions because courts rarely hear these complaints or find ULPs were committed.

Summary Refresher on the Process

The PERB process would entail the following:

- Fill out a charge form, file it, and serve it
- PERB investigation
- Parties submit position statements and evidence in support of their positions
- Mediate at PERB discretion
- Participate in informal conference
- Get dismissed for lack of a reasonable basis or get served with a PERB complaint
- Answer the complaint
- Hearing and decision by PERB

What this Means for Management

Expect more ULP actions from unions against public employers due to PERB's more accessible and union-friendly process than district court and confer with your labor counsel for guidance on steps you can take to mitigate the risk of a ULP charge and complaint and assert viable defenses if a charge is initiated.

What is a ULP

The Public Employment Labor Relations Act establishes what constitutes a ULP. Examples include:

- Interfering, restraining, or coercing employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed under PELRA;
- Dominating or interfering with the formation, existence, or administration of any employee organization or contributing other support to it;
- Discriminating in regard to hire or tenure to encourage or discourage membership in an employee organization;
- Refusing to meet and negotiate in good faith with the exclusive representative of its employees in an appropriate unit;
- Refusing to comply with grievance procedures contained in an agreement;

Minn. Stat. 179A.13, subd. 2.

The Process

Form, File & Serve

A party files a charge in writing using a PERB-provided form, and, importantly, “a clear and concise statement of each charge of [a] [ULP] including the dates, times, and places of the alleged unfair labor practice and the name of the person, entity, or both that allegedly committed the [ULP].” The charge is then submitted to the PERB (in person or on the PERB website). Next, a complete copy of the charge must be served on each party named. PERB then assigns a case number and docket the charge and serves the party with such info.

Minn. R. 7325.0110, subp. 1-5.

Investigation: Evidence Gathering

The charge then gets investigated. The *charging* party must submit evidence in support of each alleged ULP (position statement) as well as any documents that support its position to the assigned investigator within seven days of the date the charge is filed, unless extended by the investigator for good cause. The investigator may request more information from the charging party.

The *charged party* then gets time to respond, i.e., provide their position statement with supporting evidence. The other party gets 14 days from the date the charge is served on them by PERB, unless an extension is granted by the investigator for good cause. The investigator may request more information from the charged party.

Minn. R. 7325.0110, subp. 6 and 7.

Investigation Timeout: Mediation

If it would “advance the possibility of a mutual resolution,” PERB or its designee shall work with the commissioner of mediation services to assign a mediator *and* undertake an effort to conciliate or recommend mediation with a BMS mediator.

Minn. R. 7325.0120.

Investigation: Informal Conference & Opportunity to Withdrawal

A designated PERB staff member may conduct an informal conference or conferences during the course of the investigation to clarify issues or to explore voluntary resolution. The PERB person holding the settlement conference must not disclose or discuss any settlement discussions with the board or any hearing officer who may be assigned to hear the case.

If, after the investigation, the charge is found to have no reasonable basis in law or fact, PERB must advise the charging party of this fact and give the charging party the opportunity to withdraw the charge.

Minn. R. 7325.0130, subp. 1 and 2.

Dismissal or Complaint

At any time, if PERB determines that a charge has no reasonable basis in law or fact, PERB must dismiss the charge unless the charge is voluntarily withdrawn by the charging party. Otherwise, PERB may serve a complaint if there is a reasonable basis and launch the legal process that includes hearing preparation and the hearing.

Minn. R. 7325.0150, subp. 1; Minn. R. 7325.0200.

Hearing and Decision

The hearing process includes the opportunity to answer a complaint within seven days after service of the complaint or amended complaint. Prior to the hearing, there are prehearing conferences, which may include information such as a detailed written statement of the issues, a list of potential witnesses and nature of their testimony, and other information that the hearing officer request. The hearing addresses the issues alleged in the complaint or amended complaint. In the hearing, testimony may be given which is where a party may present evidence and witnesses, rebuttal testimony, and argument on the issues, and to cross-examine witnesses. All of this is done with a hearing officer. A hearing officer’s duties include the following: (1) regulate the proceedings of the case and the conduct of the parties during the proceedings; (2) receive testimony and evidence; (3) rule on requests for continuances; (4) rule on motions to sequester witnesses; (5) issue subpoenas and rule upon motions

to revoke subpoenas; (6) rule on objections, motions, and questions of procedure; (7) authorize the submission of briefs and set the time for their filing; (8) hear closing arguments; and render and serve the recommended decision and order to the board and the parties to the proceeding.

Minn. R. 7325.0210; Minn. R. 7325.0250; Minn. R. 7325.0220; Minn. R. 7325.0240.

Questions?

If you have questions or need additional information or consultation, please contact Brandon Fitzsimmons, Christina Petsoulis, Nicholas Lira Lisle or Rachel Parker via e-mail at bmfitzsimmons@flaherty-hood.com, ccpetsoulis@flaherty-hood.com, nkcliralisle@flaherty-hood.com, or rtparker@flaherty-hood.com, or by phone at 651-225-8840.

March 14, 2023

Dear CDBG-CV Grantees

RE: CDBG-CV Expenditure Status

On behalf of the State of Minnesota, Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), I would like to thank everyone for participating in the State of Minnesota CDBG-CV grant. The State of Minnesota values your involvement in assisting communities that were hit hard by the pandemic and recovering from its effects, and the efforts you are making in reaching the goals set in your grant contract agreement.

As you are aware, the federal register notice FR-6219-N-01 states that HUD is imposing an alternative requirement that 80% of all funds awarded must be expended within a 3-year performance period which ends on March 1, 2024. This means all grants collectively and not just individual grants must meet the requirement. Currently, CDBG-CV grant expenditure is at 14%. If collectively the 80% is not met, the option for extensions would be unavailable for projects that are lagging.

It is my understanding that with larger projects such as Broadband, once groundwork begins, the project can be completed relatively fast. For Broadband projects, if you have contracts signed with Internet Service Providers and completed detailed Environmental review, please submit pay requests for material expenditures or work to date as it will help increase the State's expenditure percentage and meet the CDBG-CV requirement.

If you anticipate there may be issues in meeting the deadline, please contact your respective SCDP Representative assigned to your grant for assistance.

Sincerely,

Natasha D. Kukowski

Natasha D. Kukowski
Small Cities Development Program Manager



GARY DAHMS

R

SERVING SENATE DISTRICT 15

E-Newsletter

March 17, 2023

SENATOR DAHMS: MEANINGFUL TAX RELIEF MUST PRECEDE BONDING

On Thursday, March 16, Senate Democrats forced a bonding bill to the Senate floor for a vote. This is the only bill that requires a 3/5 majority vote (41 votes) thus requiring seven Republican senators to vote for the bill. It failed to receive the necessary votes for passage.

For weeks, **Senate Republicans have made clear** that we fully support a bonding bill, but we first need to see movement on tax relief. It is essential for us to invest in Minnesotans who are struggling right now before we mortgage \$1.5 billion in taxpayer dollars. Yet halfway into the 2023 legislative session, the Senate Democrat majority has still made no meaningful moves to provide this much-needed financial relief. With a nearly \$19 billion surplus, there is no reason to not give some of this money back to hard-working Minnesotans. This is one of several reasons why I was unable to support a bonding bill at this time.



Click the picture to hear more of my comments.

Additionally, the bonding bill, as it currently stands, does not provide the full funding our rural communities should be allocated. During the floor debate, you may have heard that around 29.1% of the funding in the bonding bill is for rural Minnesota communities. To have a balanced bonding bill, dollars must proportionally represent the population of metro and rural areas. Therefore, under the bonding bill that Senate Democrats want passed, rural Minnesota receives approximately \$272 million fewer bonding dollars than we are due.

Even though the bill did not pass this week, it's important to note that the Senate immediately voted to reconsider the bill and lay it on the table. This procedural move allows the bill to continue to be worked on. That is why I am confident we are going to have a very good bonding bill this session, one that will provide rural Minnesota with our fair share.

Please feel free to reach out to my office with any concerns or ideas you may have. I will continue to keep your thoughts and concerns in mind as session advances. You can contact my office at 651-296-8138 or at sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn.

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HAPPY
St Patrick's
DAY

From Senator Dahms and his staff:
Kestlyn, Paige, and Wendy

THE LATEST IN AGRICULTURE NEWS



The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting applications for a new grant to develop enterprises, supply chains, and markets for continuous living cover crops and cropping systems in the early stage of commercial development. This one-time funding is provided to the MDA by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

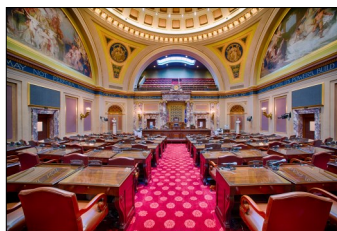
Continuous living cover (CLC) refers to agricultural systems in which there are living plants and roots in the ground throughout the entire year. This can take many forms, from winter cover crops sown between summer annuals to agroforestry practices, perennial forage crops, perennial biomass crops, and perennial grain production. This includes but is not limited to regenerative poultry silvopasture systems, Kernza® perennial grain, winter camelina, and elderberry. CLC crops have been shown to enhance water and soil quality, sequester carbon, build soil health, and provide greater biodiversity and pollinator habitat. Significant environmental benefits of these crops will result from widespread production, which requires robust value chains and markets.

The goal is to provide grants to CLC crops and cropping systems value chain enterprises for equipment infrastructure and business and market development. For example, this could include customized equipment to harvest the crop, clean and store seeds, and process crops for food products. The intended outcome is supply chain and market development that can increase CLC crops and cropping systems on agricultural lands in Minnesota.

Applicants must:

- ★ Be an organization in Minnesota, including a company, government, tribe, urban American Indian Community, partnership, and any type of civil or political association of people.
- ★ Focus on continuous living cover.

The MDA anticipates awarding approximately \$420,000 using a competitive review process. The maximum award is \$50,000, and the minimum award is \$10,000. The Developing Markets for CLC Crops Grant application must be received by 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023, through the MDA's [online application system](#). Decisions are expected in early May. For more information and to see the complete request for proposal (RFP), visit the [Developing Markets for CLC Crops webpage](#).



CURIOS ABOUT A BILL'S STATUS? FOLLOW THIS GUIDE.

The Senate moves rather quickly through bills, so sometimes it can be challenging to keep track of a bill's status. However, with the use of the Senate website, tracking the status of a bill is simple.

Start at the Senate homepage: www.senate.mn. Under the *legislation header*, the *Bill search and status* hyperlink is the first listed. Click this hyperlink to view the *Senate Bill Information – Basic Search* page. Using this tab, enter the bill number in the form of “SF 0000” under *Search by Bill Numbers* and hit *enter*. From there, the *Body*, *Bill Status*, *Official Actions*, *Last Actions*, *Law*, *Bill Text*, *Chief Author*, and *Short Description* headers will be available. To dive deeper into the status, click the bill number under the *Bill Status* header. The bill's full information will be available including the committees where the bill has been heard and the corresponding dates. To specifically read the official bill text, click the *Version List* hyperlink and all the bill's versions are available to view.



THANK YOU FOR VISITING US AT THE CAPITOL



City of Russell
Laurie Millner, City Clerk; Glen Grant, Councilman;
Hilary Buchert, Mayor; and Laura Ostlie, City Engineer



County Soil and Water Conservation Districts:
Alan Gleisner, Brown
Brayden Anderson, Yellow Medicine
Kyle Richter, Renville
Dan Nadeau, Wright



Smoke Free Minnesota

Not Pictured:

- ★ Donna Bastemeyer-Parlin, Marshall
- ★ Kerry Netzke, Executive Director, Area II
- ★ Keith Kottke, Superintendent, Springfield Public School District
- ★ Todd Lee, Superintendent, Red Rock Central Public School District
- ★ Rick Schneider, Superintendent, Yellow Medicine East Public Schools
- ★ SW/WC Superintendents



Clíodhna Bridget Albright, Marshall and
Shannon Peterson, Springfield



Kris Jacobson and Kristyn Wicht,
Dawson



City of Marshall:
Bob Byrnes, Mayor
Sharon Hanson, City
Administrator
Preston Stenseud, Parks
Superintendent



Chief Judge Stephanie Beckman, Litchfield



Southwest Centers for Independent Living (SWCIL)

CITY COUNCIL CHECKLIST

3/24/2023

ITEM	DATE	ADDRESSED BY	RESPONSIBLE TO COMPLETE	Progress Notes	COMPLETE
Recreation Facility	5/2/2017	EDA	CM, Conroy	On hold - will require additional community engagement	completed
Broadband Exploration	9/26/2022	Meyer	CM, committee	03/06/23 update - Expected completion March 31, 2023	
MNDOT 2023	5/11/2015	Zahrbock	CM, Engineer	2023 Construction - Construction Agreement Approval	
Downtown Renovation Fund	1/1/2022	Meyer	CM,	308 6th Ave - RFP for revelopment partners	
EDA CIP Program	1/1/2022	EDA	EDA	Advertising for 2023 Projects	
Downtown Open Space-Block 48	9/19/2022	Conroy	CM EDA	EDA, Attorney, Buisiness owners discussing joint venture	
Daycare Performance/EDA Appropriation	9/1/2017	EDA	Community	Meeting 1/26/23 status update, scheduling follow up	
May 12, 2022 Storm	5/12/2022	Council	CM, EM	Total Claim Payments - \$473,399	
Infrastructure North Expansion	9/1/2021	Council	CM, council	Design work in progress and PFA loan app, Due 03/31/2023 to PFA	
City Hall Restoration and Maintenance	6/1/2017	Council	CM, BM	Award Bid	
Tennis/Basketball Courts	7/2/2021	Conroy	CM, Parks	Seeking Council Approval committing to match and submitting Ap	
Carneige Library Roof	1/1/2022	Parks	Manager	USDA Award Documentatin Received	
Grand Theatre Projector	1/23/2023	Maynard	CM, council	Projector and Future Operations	
Welcome Sign School Pride State Champ	8/20/2022	Zahbrock	CM, PZ, AC	School delay, but still working on	

City Council - Conflict of Interest

Conflict of Interest related to SCDP grant process:

DEED require that anyone in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made regarding the SCDP grant application process - regardless of whether benefit is actual or perceived – Must make apparent any and all potential conflict of interests.

Effective Current Application Cycle:

To ensure all potential conflict of interests are noted and transparent (both now and during the course of an open grant), I am required to ask that any city council members who may fall under any of the below potential conflict of interest abstain from voting and the grant decision-making process in order to not corrupt the motivation of the grant application

Example 1: if a council member is an electrician he/she will need to abstain from voting to apply for the grant so that his/her interest in the grant application is not subject (whether actual or perceived) to benefit his/her personal business as a result of the grant being awarded.

Example 2: if a council member is a business owner and may be interested in applying for the grant to make improvements on his/her commercial building, he/she will need to abstain from voting to apply for the grant so that his/her interest in the grant application is not subject (whether actual or perceived) to benefit as a result of the grant being awarded.

Example 3: if a council member may be LMI (low-to-moderate) income eligible for the grant and may be interested in applying for the grant to make improvements on his/her home, he/she will need to abstain from voting to apply for the grant so that his/her interest in the grant application is not subject (whether actual or perceived) to benefit as a result of the grant being awarded.

Abstain from Voting if you are a Council Member or have a member of your immediate family who:

- Is a Rehab Contractors (i.e. construction, plumbing, electric, etc.)
- Is a Lumber Yard owner
- May be interested in applying for the grant for home or business

Upon Grant Award:

Per HUD guidelines, ALL applicants will be asked to identify whether they pose a potential for a conflict of interest. If there is a conflict of interest, DSI will submit the conflict of interest worksheet to DEED identifying and addressing the potential conflict, so that it's made transparent, and then request DEED's approval on the applicant moving forward with their project.

The process established by DEED in order to request Conflict of Interest clearance includes the following:

- SCDP conflict of interest screening
- SCDP conflict of interest worksheet
- City attorney letter
- City minutes will be needed (that it was addressed and city is aware of applicant)

Note: No EXCEPTIONS can be made when a city official is a contractor.

Instructions: Please return your completed form as part of the Response submittal.

City of Madison Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

This form gives applicants and grantees an opportunity to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may exist when receiving a grant. It is the applicant/grantee's obligation to be familiar with the Office of Grants Management (OGM) [Policy 08-01: Grants Conflict of Interest](#) (Current Policies tab) and to disclose any conflicts of interest accordingly.

All grant applicants must complete and sign a conflict of interest disclosure form.

- I or my grant organization do NOT have an ACTUAL or POTENTIAL conflict of interest.

If at any time after submission of this form, I or my grant organization discover any conflict of interest(s), I or my grant organization will disclose that conflict immediately to the appropriate agency or grant program personnel.

- I or my grant organization have an ACTUAL or POTENTIAL conflict of interest. *(Please describe below):*

Council Member / Other City Official who may have a potential C.O.I	Self or Family member may pose a conflict of interest as a potential	Abstaining from Voting
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant, <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

- All council members / City officials have a conflict of interest.
 No council members / City officials report a conflict of interest.

If at any time after submission of this form, I or my grant organization discover any additional conflict of interest(s), I or my grant organization will disclose that conflict immediately to the appropriate agency or grant program personnel.

Printed name: _____ Signature: _____

Organization: _____ Date: _____

**CITY OF MADISON, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 23-19**

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF LAC QUI PARLE)
CITY OF MADISON)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPLICATION RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Madison, Minnesota, act as the legal sponsor for the project contained in the FY'2023 Small Cities Development Program Grant Application to be submitted on or before May 1, 2023, and that the Mayor of Madison and the Madison City Manager are hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for funding of this project on behalf of the City of Madison.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Madison has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability to ensure adequate construction, operation, maintenance, and replacement of the proposed project for its design life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Madison has not violated any Federal, State, or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest, or other unlawful or corrupt practice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the State, the City of Madison may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the approved project and that the City of Madison certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in all contract agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor of Madison and the Madison City Manager, or their successors in office, are hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments thereto as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the City of Madison.

I CERTIFY THAT the above resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Madison, Minnesota, on March 27, 2023.

SIGNED:

Mayor
First Authorized Official Title Date

City Manager
Second Authorized Official Title Date

WITNESSED:

Council Member
Signature Title Date

City of Madison

Request for Proposals • SCDP Grant Administration

INTRODUCTION:

The City of Madison is seeking a Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) grant through the Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED) in order to undertake housing and commercial rehabilitation improvements in the City of Madison. The successful individual, firm, or organization selected in response to this Request for Proposals will perform services which shall include planning, management, accounting, building inspection, contractor coordination, SCDP regulatory compliance, and other public administration assistance for this project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

If the SCDP grant application is approved, the City of Madison will carry out the following grant activities within a targeted area of Madison:

- A.) Rehabilitation and repair of approximately 19 substandard owner-occupied single-family houses so as to meet or exceed Section 8 housing quality standards, energy-efficiency standards, lead-base paint standards, and local repair standards.
- B.) Rehabilitation and repair of approximately 3 substandard single-family renter-occupied housing units so as to meet or exceed Section 8 housing quality standards, energy-efficiency standards, lead-base paint standards, and local repair standards.
- C.) General grant administration relating to all areas of program implementation.

TIMING & WORK SCHEDULE:

The following schedule is established:

- A.) Proposals for administrative services must be received by the City of Madison no later than noon on Thursday, April 6, 2023.
- B.) All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the Madison City Council at their Monday, April 10, 2023, meeting, at which time approval of a Proposal and authorization of a contract is anticipated.
- C.) Begin implementation of activities immediately after notification of the award of the grant (expected in September 2023).

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The grant administrator shall report to, and be directly responsible to, the Madison City Council in performing the following services:

A – Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation.

- 1.) Design and implement all administrative phases of the rehabilitation program. This shall include measures needed to develop and comply with applicable building rehabilitation standards.
- 2.) Receive and process applications for the rehabilitation program and determine applicants' eligibility for the same.
- 3.) Coordinate additional leveraged rehabilitation financing from other sources.
- 4.) Supervise and/or conduct building inspection and work write-up activities for those houses which are to be rehabilitated. Inspection services may be directly provided by the Administrator with in-house personnel or by a third-party subcontractor. Specify this in your proposal.
 - a. If your proposal includes inspection services in-house, note your personnel's training and experience in housing rehab and rehab implementation.
- 5.) Assure compliance with HUD lead paint requirements for owner-occupied housing rehab, including the provision of lead risk assessments and lead clearances. Risk assessment and clearance services may be directly provided by the Administrator with in-house personnel or by a third-party subcontractor. Specify this in your proposal.
 - a. If your proposal includes risk assessment and clearance services in-house, note your personnel's training and experience in this field.
- 6.) Maintain close day-to-day contact with all rehabilitation activities so as to promote the timely completion of individual projects.
- 7.) Monitor contracts to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal regulations and building quality standards.
- 8.) Monitor compliance with program regulations and requirements on the part of individual applicants for rehabilitation.

B – Rental Housing Rehabilitation.

- 1.) Design and implement all administrative phases of the two rehabilitation programs. This shall include measures needed to develop and comply with applicable building rehabilitation standards.
- 2.) Receive and process applications for the rehabilitation programs and determine applicants' eligibility for the same.
- 3.) Coordinate additional leveraged rehabilitation financing from other sources.

- 4.) Supervise and/or conduct building inspection and work write-up activities for those buildings which are to be rehabilitated. Inspection services may be directly provided by the Administrator with in-house personnel or by a third-party subcontractor. Specify this in your proposal.
 - a. If your proposal includes inspection services in-house, note your personnel’s training and experience in housing rehab and rehab implementation.
- 5.) Assure compliance with HUD lead paint requirements for renter-occupied housing rehab, including the provision of lead risk assessments and lead clearances. Risk assessment and clearance services may be directly provided by the Administrator with in-house personnel or by a third-party subcontractor. Specify this in your proposal.
 - a. If your proposal includes risk assessment and clearance services in-house, note your personnel’s training and experience in this field.
- 6.) Maintain close day-to-day contact with all rehabilitation activities so as to promote the timely completion of individual projects.
- 7.) Monitor contracts to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal regulations and building quality standards.
- 8.) Monitor compliance with program regulations and requirements on the part of individual applicants for rehabilitation.
- 9.) Monitor compliance with federal labor standards provisions, including Davis-Bacon wages, Contractor Work Hours & Safety Act (CWHSA), and Copeland Anti-Kickback Act, applicable to rental rehabilitation.

C – General Grant Administration.

- 1.) Assume full responsibility for compliance with SCDP administrative requirements and implementation of all phases of the project, subject to the oversight of the Madison City Council. Design and implement bookkeeping systems and administrative procedures in conformity with all applicable state and federal regulations. This includes administration of Program Income which will be generated by the programs, proper use of said Program Income, and applicable reporting to DEED.
- 2.) Maintain administrative control over all phases of the grant to ensure full compliance with all relevant regulations and conditions.

EVALUATION:

The Madison City Council shall use “competitive proposals” procurement procedures as outlined in the Common Rule “Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments” (24 CFR Part 85), wherein “awards [of contracts] will be made to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered.” All proposals will be evaluated by the Madison City Council.

Your proposal must contain four parts, each of which will be taken into account by the Madison City

Council in their consideration of awarding a contract for services:

- A.) Management & Staffing: Describe your staffing configurations and the qualifications of professional personnel assigned to the project.
- B.) Technical Experience: Describe your experience with this type of project, this specific grant program, the activities which are proposed for Madison, and the community of Madison itself.
- C.) Proposal: Describe services to be furnished.
- D.) Cost and Pricing: Provide all relevant cost information.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:

Interested parties must submit their proposals no later than the date which is specified under “Timing & Work Schedule.” Please identify the envelope in which you are submitting your proposal with the words “Grant Administration Proposal” or similar wording. Submit your proposal to:

City of Madison
c/o Val Halvorson, City Manager
404 6th Ave
Madison, MN 56256
Phone: (320) 598-7373

Low- to moderate-income persons, Section 3 women and minority-owned businesses, disabled individuals, and members of disadvantaged classes are particularly encouraged to submit proposals.

Grant Application - Tennessen Warning Notice

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

Some data related to your grant application may be classified as private under Minnesota Statute 13.599. In order to collect and use this data, we must tell you why we need the data, how we intend to use it, and any consequences you may experience if you do or do not supply the information.

How we intend to use the data

The information you submit in connection with your grant application will be used to evaluate your grant application and, if you are selected for funding, to announce your award.

A Minnesota law prohibits state agencies from announcing grant awards before grant agreement negotiations are complete. If you are selected for funding, this document will allow DEED to announce your grant award on a preliminary basis while those negotiations are still pending.

Selected grantees will be notified before any announcements are made. Announcements typically include information such as a project description, the award amount, and the anticipated impact of grant funding. We may also include information from our evaluation process, including scores and ranks (if applicable).

We will never publicize your business plans, customer lists, income tax returns, design / market / feasibility studies, income and expense reports, or any other data classified as private or nonpublic under Minn. Stat. 13.591. Application data submitted by organizations that are not selected for grant funding will only be released upon request and as required by Minn. Stat. Chapter 13 or other applicable state/federal law.

Application or evaluation data may also be shared with any entity that has a legal right to the data under Minnesota or federal law, including under court order.

Consequences to you

You can refuse to supply any or all of the requested information, which you are not legally required to provide.

For more information

- DEED Data Practices - www.deed.state.mn.us/privacy.htm
- Minnesota Data Practices Act - www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/stats/13/
- Minnesota Department of Administration, Information Policy Analysis Division (IPAD) - www.ipad.state.mn.us/index.html

Individual's Acknowledgement

I have read and understand this notice.

- Name: _____
- Date: _____

Memorandum

Date 22 March 2023
To Val Halvorson
From Rita Goodrich
Project Madison City Hall Window Rehabilitation Project
Regarding Contractor Selection

The bidding for the window rehabilitation project at the Madison City Hall resulted in one bid. The bid was from Old World Windows, for \$277,500.00. The bid is over the anticipated bid amount, (259,700.) but within the amount with the contingency (\$293,00.). The contractor meets the required qualifications, and submitted window rehabilitation projects similar in scope to the Madison City Hall project and has good references. I have worked with Old World Windows on another Legacy Grant Project that went very well and I am confident they can do this project as well.

Note, there was an additional interested contractor, but they could not meet the required schedule and did not submit.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



404 6th Avenue
Madison, Minnesota 56256
P 320.598.7373
F 320.598.7376
E madison@ci.madison.mn.us
ci.madison.mn.us

March 24, 2023

Department of Natural Resources
Outdoor Recreation Grant Program
Attn: Audrey Mularie
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4039

To whom it may concern:

The City Council of Madison has determined that redevelopment of the basketball and tennis courts with ADA improvements is a priority for our community.

The Madison City Council approved the DNR outdoor recreation grant application and use of local funds to meet our required match on March 27th, 2023. The funds will come from a combination of reserves and levy dollars.

Respectfully,

Val Halvorson
City Manager
City of Madison



Memo

To: City Council
From: City Manager, City Clerk
Date: March 23, 2023
Re: Gworks Agreement

Background:

During a typical software conversion, the current company transfers the customer data to the new company to ensure you have the historical data for reports.

The process depends on the company, what platform the data is in, how it is hosted, and if it is proprietary. In communication with several people at Tyler Tech and MRES in most all cases this is a seamless process. It is not our case.

Gworks has control of our data, and their contract allows them to charge us to extract our own data. The fee is \$31,000 in the form of a Software and Professional Services Agreement.

Simplest way to put it we need to unlock our data, and they are within their legal rights to do so, based on the contract we signed when the City switched to Gworks.

To ensure we are not in the similar situation, if we were to leave Tyler the data is not proprietary to Tyler. Our data is in a common format called sequel. As long as the new company can convert the data there is no cost, there would be a cost to put it into a different format. The cost would be based on the quantity of data.

Discussion/Recommendation:

The City attorney and LMC contract attorneys have reviewed the agreements, there is nothing in them that prohibits the company from charging us this fee.

This was an oversight by management and I apologize that it was not identified earlier to include in the initial approval of the project.

We continue to be resolute in our decision to move to Tyler Tech. Working with their team, alongside MRES has been very positive.

I am asking for the Council to approve the agreement. I propose to use the remaining ARPA funds to cover this expense.



404 6th Avenue
Madison, Minnesota 56256
P 320.598.7373
F 320.598.7376
E madison@ci.madison.mn.us
ci.madison.mn.us

March 16, 2023

Mike Schuelke
ARENA CLERK
2480 151st Ave.
Madison MN 56256

Dear Mike Schuelke:

Enclosed please find a Fire Protection Agreement between ARENA Township and the City of Madison for service from June 1, 2023, through May 31, 2025.

After review, the Madison City Council approved the following rate for rural fire protection at its meeting held on March 27, 2023:

June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2025 \$350 per section

This current contract rate is based on the 2023 fire department budget using a cost share of 65% city and 35% township. The City will determine future years' rates using a combination of historical data and future projections.

Should you have any questions, you may call me at (320) 598-7373 or email me at madison@ci.madison.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Val Halvorson
City Manager



Memo

To: City Council
From: Todd Erp, Streets Parks Supervisor
Date: March 23, 2023
Re: Snow Gate

Background:

The request for snow gates has been brought to the council on previous occasions. It is usually during a year with lots of snow and people are getting tired of moving it. Former and current Street Supervisors have looked into them as a way to improve our services. But, found that it does not work when you most want them too – heavy snow amounts, and with our equipment.

1. Would have to go from trucks to motor graders or possibly payloaders with a blade on front which would be a huge cost.
2. Cannot clear snow from plow once windrow gets too high. It would then empty out into intersections or flow over to the opposite side of the blade.
3. Not fast enough, it would take 2 to 3 times longer to complete the route. And wet heavy snow wouldn't clear very well at slower speeds.
4. In order to get the job done in a timely manner the city would have to hire more people and equipment.
5. Working snow depth is around 4" inches any more will fill the blade before it gets across the driveway.
6. Once the windrow is too tall for the snow to be thrown over, it will fall back into the streets causing narrow streets.
7. Motor graders blades work with down pressure, they cause more damage to the street surface. (ie. Removing crack sealing, removing seal coating, man holes and water shutoffs.)
8. Train/hire more operators that could run a motor grader.

Discussion/Recommendation:

The City of Madison supports evaluating ways to improve our services. We have determined that adding snow gates is not feasible for the City of Madison and our current equipment, and staffing levels. Please see the attached article.

NEWS

Snow gates come with pros and cons

FARGO -- Anyone who had to shovel a driveway following the recent holiday blizzard probably wondered if there wasn't a way to prevent snow block caused by city plows.



The snow gate is a hydraulically activated attachment used to trap snow in front of a blade for a relatively short distance. (Special to The Forum)

By DL News Staff

January 24, 2010 at 1:26 PM

[Share](#)

FARGO -- Anyone who had to shovel a driveway following the recent holiday blizzard probably wondered if there wasn't a way to prevent snow block caused by city plows.

Turns out, there is. And a number of cities in the region use it. But the device, called a snow gate, carries pros and cons, officials say.

Following snowy winters in the late 1990s, residents in Bismarck decided they were tired of digging out driveways every time a snowplow went by.

So, they passed a referendum requiring city crews to make sure driveways remain passable while snow gets cleared from city streets.

To achieve that, the city purchased snow gates, which attach to the end of plows used on motor graders and front-end loaders.

Operators can drop the gates when approaching driveways or crossing streets and essentially prevent snow from leaving the plow until the gate is lifted again.

No heavy lifting

Snow gates have been used in Bismarck since the early 2000s and work well at preventing ridges from forming across driveways - except in heavy snow, said Jeff Heintz, Bismarck's director of public works.

"The funny thing was, after that ordinance was passed in 2000, we really didn't have a snow event that was of a magnitude to test the snow gates," Heintz said.

"We'd get little dusters - 2 or 3 inches - and they (the gates) worked great. It was always a question: What was going to happen when we got the big heavy snows?" Heintz said.

The answer came last winter, when about 17 inches of wet, heavy snow fell on Bismarck.

"We weren't able to push that amount of snow with the gate down. It was stopping the equipment," Heintz said.

Another drawback of snow gates, he said, is that plows have to drive slower. That means it takes longer to clear streets and snow

doesn't get pushed very far onto berms, which leads to narrowing of streets.

A provision in Bismarck's ordinance allows the driveway rule to be suspended during snow emergencies.

If that wasn't in place, Heintz said it could take five or six days to clear streets following a heavy snowfall.

After going to snow gates, Bismarck hired eight additional workers to help get snow removed within a time period acceptable to residents, Heintz said.

The additional labor and repair costs associated with snow gates amount to about half a million dollars a year, with the expense covered by the city's sales tax, according to Heintz.

Expensive switch

Fargo doesn't use snow gates, but the city has looked into the possibility, according to Al Weigel, Fargo's director of operations.

He said cost would be a serious issue if the city adopted the equipment, primarily because snow gates don't work on snowplow trucks, so Fargo's fleet of about 20 plow trucks would have to be replaced with motor graders or loaders.

Add to that the expense of snow gates and Weigel estimated the switch could cost Fargo about \$6 million.

Weigel said residents would no doubt like having driveways kept clear, but he said they may not be happy with the narrowing of streets that would likely occur with snow gates, nor the extra time it would take to open streets.

"This weekend, if we get 4 or 5 inches of snow, within a 24-hour period we'll be through the whole city," Weigel said.

"If we had snow gates," he added, "I would say you're talking a minimum of 72 hours to get through."

Barry Johnson, West Fargo public works director, said officials there haven't really talked much about snow gates.

He said because the city uses more plow trucks than motor graders, making a switch could be an expensive proposition.

The same goes for Moorhead, according to Chad Martin, the city's director of operations.

To switch to snow gates, Moorhead would have to replace six plow trucks with at least eight motor graders, at a price of about \$230,000 per grader, Martin said, adding that every couple of years city council members bring up the subject of snow gates because a resident has asked about them.

And every time it's the same answer, he said: Snow gates do a nice job of keeping snow out of driveways, but they would require a major investment in vehicles and snow cleaning would take longer.

The city of Jamestown, N.D., has been using snow gates for about 10 years and they work well for light snow, according to Harold Sad, street department foreman.

But, he said, street constriction has been an issue.

"Jamestown had 'em on when we had that Christmas blizzard," Sad said, referring to snow gates and the recent heavy snow over the holidays.

"We're still suffering for that," he added. "Our streets are very narrow now."

The snow gates were taken off just before a recent big snow and they will stay off for the time being, Sad said.

CLAIMS REPORT
 Check Range: 3/17/2023- 3/17/2023

UP CK# 64220-64232

IL ACCT #	VENDOR NAME	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK#	CHECK DATE
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION				
01-41320-342	FARM & HOME PUBLISHERS LT	ADMIN-PLAT BOOK LISTING	130.25	64224	3/17/23
01-41320-409	FLAHERTY & HOOD, P.A.	ADMIN-LABOR/EMPLOY CONSULT	36.25	64226	3/17/23
		4132 ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	166.50		
	FIRE DEPARTMENT				
01-42200-112	MADISON FIRE RELIEF ASSOC	FIRE-SBR REIMB	1,000.00	64230	3/17/23
		4220 FIRE DEPARTMENT TOTAL	1,000.00		
	LIBRARY				
01-45500-310	LYNDON WORDEN	LIB-SNOW REMOVAL	60.00	64231	3/17/23
		4550 LIBRARY TOTAL	60.00		
		101 GENERAL TOTAL	1,226.50		
	AMBULANCE				
	AMBULANCE				
01-44100-180	NATIONAL REGISTRY OF EMERGENCY	AMB-EMT RECERT FEE	25.00	6120	3/17/23
01-44100-212	LQP CO-OP OIL	FUEL EXPENSE	983.18	64229	3/17/23
01-44100-217	A-OX WELDING SUPPLY COMPA	AMB-SUPPLIES	165.80	64220	3/17/23
01-44100-217	BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC	AMB-SUPPLIES	117.54	64222	3/17/23
01-44100-320	EXPERT BILLING, LLC	AMB-FEB 2023 BILLING EXP	579.50	64223	3/17/23
01-44100-325	FIRSTNET/AT&T MOBILITY	AMB-HOTSPOT SERVICE	1.46	64225	3/17/23
		4410 AMBULANCE TOTAL	1,872.48		
		201 AMBULANCE TOTAL	1,872.48		
	UTIL EXT PROJECT FUND				
	UTILITY EXPANSION				
407-46520-303	BOLTON & MENK INC	2023 INFRASTRUCTURE	2,661.00	64221	3/17/23
		4652 UTILITY EXPANSION TOTAL	2,661.00		
		407 UTIL EXT PROJECT FUND TOTAL	2,661.00		
	SEWER				
	ADMINISTRATION AND GENERA				
602-49470-331	RYAN FLATEN	SEW-CONF MILEAGE REIM-ST CLOUD	322.16	64227	3/17/23
		4947 ADMINISTRATION AND GENERA TOTAL	322.16		
		602 SEWER TOTAL	322.16		

CLAIMS REPORT
Check Range: 3/17/2023- 3/17/2023

IL ACCT #	VENDOR NAME	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK#	CHECK DATE
	ELECTRIC UTILITY				
	ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION				
04-49570-212	LQP CO-OP OIL	ELEC-FUEL EXPENSE	62.89	64228	3/17/23
04-49570-227	ZIEGLER INC.	ELEC-CHAIN LOOP	71.97	64232	3/17/23

		4957 ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION TOTAL	134.86		

		604 ELECTRIC UTILITY TOTAL	134.86		

		Accounts Payable Total	6,217.00		

**CLAIMS REPORT
CLAIMS FUND SUMMARY**

FUND	NAME	AMOUNT
101	GENERAL	1,226.50
201	AMBULANCE	1,872.48
407	UTIL EXT PROJECT FUND	2,661.00
602	SEWER	322.16
604	ELECTRIC UTILITY	134.86

	TOTAL FUNDS	6,217.00

CLAIMS REPORT
 Check Range: 3/23/2023- 3/23/2023

UP CK# 64238-64248
 CHECK

L ACCT #	VENDOR NAME	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK#	DATE
01-41320-321	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	ADMIN-PHONE	175.28	64241	3/23/23
		4132 ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	175.28		
01-41940-380	CITY HALL MN ENERGY RESOURCES	CTY HALL-NAT GAS 3/23	886.38	64247	3/23/23
		4194 CITY HALL TOTAL	886.38		
01-42200-212	FIRE DEPARTMENT LQP CO-OP OIL	FIRE-FUEL EXPENSE	192.91	64243	3/23/23
01-42200-221	MIDWEST MACHINERY CO	FIRE-BATTERY/OIL CHANGE	344.89	64246	3/23/23
01-42200-240	MADISON AUTO PARTS	FIRE-PREMIUM AGM	110.99	64244	3/23/23
01-42200-321	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	FIRE-PHONE	43.82	64241	3/23/23
01-42200-380	MN ENERGY RESOURCES	FIRE-NAT GAS 3/23	587.70	64247	3/23/23
		4220 FIRE DEPARTMENT TOTAL	1,280.31		
01-43100-321	STREET MAINTENANCE FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	STR-PHONE	61.13	64241	3/23/23
		4310 STREET MAINTENANCE TOTAL	61.13		
01-45127-321	SKATING RINK FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	SK RINK-PHONE/B BAND	186.04	64241	3/23/23
		4512 SKATING RINK TOTAL	186.04		
01-45500-321	LIBRARY FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	LIB-PHONE	178.79	64241	3/23/23
		4550 LIBRARY TOTAL	178.79		
		101 GENERAL TOTAL	2,767.93		
01-49400-321	WATER WATER PRODUCTION FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	WT PLANT ALARM-due 4/6/23	96.43	64241	3/23/23
		4940 WATER PRODUCTION TOTAL	96.43		
		601 WATER TOTAL	96.43		
02-49450-321	SEWER SEWER TREATMENT FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	WWTP-ALARM	96.34	64241	3/23/23
		4945 SEWER TREATMENT TOTAL	96.34		

CLAIMS REPORT
 Check Range: 3/23/2023- 3/23/2023

L ACCT #	VENDOR NAME	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK#	CHECK DATE
		602 SEWER TOTAL	96.34		
	SANITATION				
	SANITATION				
03-49500-384	OLSON SANITATION INC.	SANIT-TIPPING FEE 2/23	4,343.16	64248	3/23/23
03-49500-409	OLSON SANITATION INC.	SANIT-HAULING FEE 2/23	10,273.87	64248	3/23/23
		4950 SANITATION TOTAL	14,617.03		
		603 SANITATION TOTAL	14,617.03		
	ELECTRIC UTILITY				
	ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION				
04-49570-321	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	ELEC-CEMETARY SUBSTATION	118.84	64241	3/23/23
		4957 ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION TOTAL	118.84		
		604 ELECTRIC UTILITY TOTAL	118.84		
	LIQUOR				
	OFF-SALE LIQUOR				
09-49750-251	BELLBOY CORPORATION	LIQ-LIQUOR EXPENSE	3,516.76	64238	3/23/23
09-49750-251	BEVERAGE WHOLESALERS	LIQ-LIQUOR EXPENSE	1,072.55	64239	3/23/23
09-49750-251	JOHNSON BROS-ST.PAUL	LIQ-LIQUOR EXPENSE	1,474.41	64242	3/23/23
09-49750-251	MADISON BOTTLING CO.	LIQ-BEER EXPENSE	4,923.55	64245	3/23/23
09-49750-258	BELLBOY CORPORATION	LIQ-FREIGHT EXPENSE	42.08	64238	3/23/23
09-49750-258	JOHNSON BROS-ST.PAUL	LIQ-FREIGHT EXPENSE	33.67	64242	3/23/23
09-49750-321	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	LIB-PHONE	43.82	64241	3/23/23
09-49750-380	MN ENERGY RESOURCES	LIQ-NAT GAS 3/23	169.77	64247	3/23/23
		4975 OFF-SALE LIQUOR TOTAL	11,276.61		
		609 LIQUOR TOTAL	11,276.61		
		Accounts Payable Total	28,973.18		

**CLAIMS REPORT
CLAIMS FUND SUMMARY**

FUND	NAME	AMOUNT
101	GENERAL	2,767.93
601	WATER	96.43
602	SEWER	96.34
603	SANITATION	14,617.03
604	ELECTRIC UTILITY	118.84
609	LIQUOR	11,276.61

	TOTAL FUNDS	28,973.18